

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 165
By Maddox

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Fran Spears
and the excellent Martin Junior High School
Cheerleaders on finishing third in the National
Cheerleading Association national competition.

WHEREAS, at the heart of any strong athletic program is a strong cheerleading squad,
one which engenders enthusiastic support, and Tennessee is fortunate to have some of the
best cheerleading squads in the country; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary Martin Junior High School Cheerleaders put on several
highly impressive performances at the National Cheerleaders Association national competition
and despite many very strong contenders finished third in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious event took place in Dallas, Texas on December 28 and 29,
1996, before thousands of fans and some of the toughest judges in the world; and

WHEREAS, the talented team included twenty members, five fifth graders, seven
seventh graders and eight eighth graders, sixteen of whom were competing at the national level
for the first time; and

WHEREAS, this was the seventh year Martin has competed in the NCA championships
and the sixth year they have reached the finals; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, their first trip to the nationals, Martin finished thirteenth; the team
also finished seventh in 1991; fourth in 1993; sixth in 1994; and fifth in 1995; and

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WHEREAS, Martin was expertly coached by Fran Spears, who has taught her team members that “respect learned and earned is worth the cost”, an important lesson whether on athletic courts or on the courts of life; and

WHEREAS, Coach Spears was fortunate to have two outstanding student assistant coaches, Beth Wade and Shara Lynn Hunt; and

WHEREAS, the squad members were: eighth graders, Amy Hazlewood, Elizabeth Hinds, Lindsay Todd, Robin Hauhe, Lindsey Keen, Megan Kilgas, Christen Reagan, and Crystal Hayslett; seventh graders, Ashley Harding, Julie Anne Bell, Ashley Allen, Ashley Michael, Jill Barber, Kesha Copeland, and Helen Sutton; and sixth graders, Tara High, Jenny Siler, Ashley Betts, Christin Hauhe, and Jada Callis. Despite their relative youth and intense pressure, they each performed like veterans, with skill and grace; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to recognize this special group of our best and brightest; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Fran Spears and the Martin Junior High School Cheerleaders and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.